



Sheriff Troy J. Knudson
ROCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Barbara J. Tillman, Chief Deputy



Erik D. Chellevoid
Commander, Law Enforcement Services

Craig L. Strouse
Commander, Correctional Services

MEDIA RELEASE

CHIEF DEPUTY RETIREMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

For Immediate Release

Date: October 24, 2019

Contact Person

Sheriff Troy J. Knudson
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Chief Deputy Barbara J. Barrington-Tillman has announced her retirement date of December 16, 2019, after over thirty-seven years of service at the Rock County Sheriff's Office. Before joining the Sheriff's Office, she was employed by the City of Beloit Police Department for 4.5 years. Thus, she has been serving our local community since February of 1978.

Chief Deputy Barrington-Tillman was hired as a Deputy Sheriff by Sheriff F. Joseph Black on August 1, 1982, and attended the Police Academy at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College in Green Bay, WI. She was promoted by Sheriff Black to Sergeant in August of 1987, and Lieutenant in July of 1991. Sheriff Howard L. Erickson promoted her to Commander in February of 1995. Sheriff Robert D. Spoden promoted her to Chief Deputy on January 3, 2007. She has worked under the command of five Sheriffs (F. Joseph Black, Howard L. Erickson, Eric A. Runaas, Robert D. Spoden, and Troy J. Knudson).



Early in her career, she was an advisor for the Rock County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post. She served as Unit Leader for the Rock County Sheriff Office Police Reserve Unit and coordinated the security for the Rock County 4-H Fair for many years. She was a member of the Southern Wisconsin Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team and assisted with many debriefings across Wisconsin. She served on the Wisconsin Department of Justice Entry-Level Law Enforcement Exam Development Committee charged with authoring examination questions for the state administered exam. She shared her writing skills as a Law Enforcement Academy Instructor for *Police Report Writing* at Blackhawk Technical College.

Barrington-Tillman was a founding member of the Wisconsin Association of Women Police (WAWP) and served on the Board of Directors as Vice President. She received the Mary Rita Ostrander Leadership Award, which is presented to law enforcement officers who have made sustained and significant contributions to the field of law enforcement and who have demonstrated specific continuous acts that support women in law enforcement all while serving as a role model.

She was a member of the International Association of Women Police (IAWP). Barrington-Tillman was a conference presenter on the topic of *Women in Law Enforcement Leadership* at IAWP Training Conferences in Dallas, TX, and Milwaukee, WI. She received an award for her significant contribution to IAWP. Barrington-Tillman was a member of the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE), which provides training and networking opportunities for female law enforcement leaders from all across the country.

While working in the Correctional Services Division, Barrington-Tillman served on the first Rock County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. She attended specialized training schools at the U.S. Department of Justice National Institute of Corrections in Longmont, CO, on the topics: *Planning of New Institutions*, *Jail Design Review*, *How to Open New Institutions*, *Legal Issues in Corrections*, and *Correctional Leadership Development*. She was a founding member of the Wisconsin Jail Association (WJA) and served on the Board of Directors as Treasurer. In addition, she served for many years on the Planning Committee for the Wisconsin Jail Administrators Conference. Barrington-Tillman was a member of the American Correctional Association (ACA), the American Jail Association (AJA) and presented on the topic *Inmate Programming – RECAP* at the AJA Conference in Columbus, OH. She served on the Board of Directors for Rock Valley Community Programs. She served as a member of the Wisconsin Department of Justice Training and Standards Bureau Jail Advisory Curriculum Development Committee charged with authoring the curriculum for the Basic Jail Recruit Academy. She was a Jail Academy Instructor at Blackhawk Technical College, where she taught *Supervising Special Needs Inmates*.

Barrington-Tillman is a member of the Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs Association, where she previously served as a Regional District Representative. She served as Treasurer of the Rock County Deputy Sheriff's Supervisors Association. She has served as a member of the Rock County Traffic Safety Committee, Rock County Local Emergency Planning Committee, Rock County Safe Schools Committee, Rock County Diversity and Inclusion Work Group, and as an alternate on the Rock County 911 Commission. She is a past President of the Rock County Law Enforcement Association. She formerly served as a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee at Blackhawk Technical College.

Over the course of her career she has served in leadership roles in the Correctional Services and Law Enforcement Services Divisions at the Sheriff's Office. She is a graduate of the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Executive Development Institute. Barrington-Tillman has served as Acting Emergency Management Director and Acting Sheriff. She was awarded the F. Joseph Black Leadership Award. She is a YWCA Women of Distinction Award recipient.

Aside from serving at the Sheriff's Office, she has been active in our community by serving on the School District of Janesville Communication Committee, the Kennedy Elementary School Planning Committee, and for two years as the President of the Parent Teacher Organization at Kennedy Elementary School. She served as a religious educator at Our Lady of Assumption Church. She was a member of the Planning Committee for the American Cancer Society Janesville Relay For Life. She served as a member of the American Cancer Society Wisconsin Volunteer Leadership Committee. Currently, she serves as Chair of the District Board of Blackhawk Technical College.

For literally decades, Chief Deputy Barrington-Tillman has been a critical and integral part of the Sheriff's Office. She has left her mark on nearly every aspect of our organization and has been an amazing leader who will be sorely missed! Few people have so earned and so deserved an outstanding retirement as she has, and we wish her the very best!

Troy J. Knudson
Sheriff